

State of Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

****NEWS RELEASE****

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Two students named Advanced Placement State Scholars

MADISON—State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster congratulated **Namita Jain**, a graduate of University School of Milwaukee, and **Ilari A. Shafer**, a graduate of Memorial High School in Madison, for being named Wisconsin's 2006 Advanced Placement Scholars.

"Students who receive this honor are among the highest academic achievers in our schools and the nation," Burmaster said. "These two students devoted themselves to their studies. Additionally, they had important teacher and parental support that contributed to their academic success."

This is the 16th year that The College Board's Advanced Placement (AP) Program has made AP State Scholar Awards. The awards are presented to the male and female student in each state and the District of Columbia with grades of three or higher on the greatest number of AP exams and have the highest average grade on all AP exams. Jain and Shafer are among 106 students nationwide to receive AP State Scholar Awards.

The AP program offers students the opportunity to take challenging college-level courses while still in high school and to receive college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on the end-of-course AP exams. Scores of three, four, or five on AP exams generally are considered passing and worthy of credit at many universities.

In 2006, more than 1.3 million high school students in 16,000 secondary schools worldwide took more than 2.3 million AP exams. During the 2005-06 school year, 23,306 Wisconsin students took 36,842 AP exams, with 68.9 percent earning a grade of three or higher on their exams.

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